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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/864,873

Applicant : John J. ROSSI et al.

Filed : May 25, 2001

TC/A.U. : 1635

Examiner : Karen A. Lacourciere

Docket No. : 1954-330 Customer No. : 06449 Confirmation No. : 2281

Director of the United States Patent

and Trademark Office

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO DECEMBER 19, 2003 OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This communication is submitted in response to the December 19, 2003 Final Office Action issued in connection with the above-referenced application. A response to the Office Action is due by March 19, 2004, and thus this response has been timely filed.

Remarks begin on page 2.